

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, Claims 1, 8, 10, 22, 26 and 28 have been amended, and new Claims 2-5 and 7 have been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claims 2-5, and the claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11, 22 and 26-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, on the grounds of indefiniteness. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, and Claim 7 has been cancelled.


Claims 1, 2, 6 and 35 were rejected under § 102(b) on the grounds of anticipation by Owens, disclosing a harness for restraining an occupant of a vehicle. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Figure 3 of Owens shows that the harness comprises two vertical and parallel straps 1 which are secured to the back rest of a vehicle seat by looping around the back rest and attaching their ends together. Two horizontal restraints 17, 19 pass through slots in the vertical straps and wrap around the occupant at waist and chest levels. The ends of each of the horizontal restraints 17, 19 are then fastened together, thus securing the occupant to the seat. It should be clear to a person skilled in the art that the pair of horizontal straps correspond to an "occupant harness" and the pair of vertical straps 1 corresponds to the "seat harness." It should also be clear that at least part of the seat harness portion of Owens does not pass around to the front of the occupant. Claim 1 recites "at least part of the seat harness being adapted to pass around to the front of the

occupant.” It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 6 and 35 are novel and inventive over Owens, and that the rejection of Claims 1, 6 and 35 on grounds of anticipation by Owens should be withdrawn.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 3-5, 7-11, 22 and 26-34 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections for indefiniteness and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of Claims 2-5, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. It is therefore believed that the Claims as amended should be allowable, and an early action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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